# Message Text

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SUBJECT: U.S.-EGYPTIAN MEDICAL COOPERATION-NOTES ON MEETINGS WITH DR. AHMED K. MAZEN, AUGUST 15-22, 1974

1. SUMMARY: DURING HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON, D.C. WITH THE FAHMI DELEGATION, DR. AHMED K. MAZEN, FIRST UNDERSECRETARY MINISTRY OF HEALTH MET WITH THE CHAIRMAN OF THE U.S. SIDE OF THE JOINT MEDICAL COOPERATION WORKING GROUP, DR. CHARLES C. EDWARDS, AND VISITED OFFICES OF THE DHEW, PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE (PHS) AND SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICE (SRS); THE AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, BUREAUS OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE UNCLASSIFIED

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(TA HEALTH) AND SUPPORTING ASSISTANCE (SA); AND THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE. THROUGHOUT THE MEETINGS WITH PHS, SRS, AND AID (TA HEALTH) STAFF EFFORTS WERE MADE TO ACQUAINT DR. MAZEN WITH EXISTING PROGRAMS AS WELL AS LEAGAL AND FUNDING AUTHORITIES

OF THE AGENCIES AS THEY RELATE TO POSSIBILITIES FOR IMMEDIATE AND LONG-TERM COOPERATION WITH EGYPT AND THE AGENCIES SPECIFIC INTERESTS WITH RESPECT TO DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATIVE ACTIVIES. DURING EACH MEETING, ONE OR MORE PARTS OF THE PACKAGE OF SIXTEEN PROPOSALS FROM THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH, WHICH DR. MAZEN BROUGHT TO WASHINGTON, WERE DISCUSSED IN A GENERAL WAY. NO COMMITMENTS WERE MADE. RATHER, AN EFFORT WAS MDE TO POINT OUT HOW DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT MIGHT BE HELPFUL WITH RESPECT TO SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF A LARGER PROJECT. SUMMARIES OF SPECIFIC MEETINGS ARE GIVEN BELOW. END SUMMARY.

- 2. DURING MEETINGS WITH DHEW'S ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR HEALTH, EDWARDS, IT WAS AGREED THE FIRST MEETING OF THE MEDICAL COOPERATION WORKING GROUP WOULD BE HELD IN CAIRO THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 23, NOW WEEK OF OCTOBER 28. IT WAS UNDERSTOOD THAT DR. EDWARDS' PARTY WOULD INCLUDE EXPERT ADVISERS FOR THE AREAS OF HEALTH STATISTICS, MEDICAL EDUCATION, HEALTH SERVICES, TOXICOLOGY AND VACCINES. IT WAS UNDERSTOOD ALSO THAT THE FIRST MEETING WOULD SERVE PRIMARILY AS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE U.S. SIDE TO LEARN FIRST HAND ABOUT HEALTH IN EGYPT AND THE STATUS OF THE SEVERAL PROJECTS FOR MEDICAL COOPERATIONS PROPOSED BY THE EGYPTIAN SIDE. DURING A WIND-UP MEETING WITH DR. EDWARDS, DR. MAZEN INDICATED HIS INTEREST IN A HEALTH SECTOR ANALYSIS TO ASSIST IN PLANNING MEDICAL COOPERATION. THIS SUBJECT WAS RAISED INITIALLY DURING A MEETING WITH AID/TA HEALTH STAFF. DR. EDWARDS RESPONDED FAVORABLY. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THIS SUBJECT IS PROVIDED BELOW.
- 3. ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, DR. MAZEN VISITED THE NIH CLINICAL CENTER AND MET WITH DR. MILO D. LEAVITT, DIRECTOR, FOGARTY INTERNATIONAL CENTER (FIC), NIH. DURING THIS MEETING, DR. MAZEN INDICATED INTEREST IN THE FIC INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.
- 4. ON AUGUST 16, DR. MAZEN MET WITH STAFF OF THE PHS HEALTH RESOURCES ADMINISTARTION. THE PRINCIPALS WERE DR. HAROLD MARGULIES, DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR; DR. JOHN C. GREENE, UNCLASSIFIED

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DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF HEALTH RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT; DR. EDWARD PERRIN, DIRECTOR, NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS, AND DR. GERALD ROSENTHAL, DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF HEALTH SERVICES. THE DISCUSSION WITH DR. MARGULIES, WHO WILL BE ACCOMPANYING DR. EDWARDS TO CAIRO IN OCTOBER, COVERED A WIDE RANGE OF HEALTH MATTERS.

HE MEETING WITH DR. GREENE FOCUSED ON HEALTH MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT, PARTICULARLY THE USE OF PARAPROFESSIONALS, AND MEDICAL EDUCATION. IN THIS CONNECTION, DR. MAZEN EMPHASIZED THAT EGYPT WOULD LIKE TO TRAIN LEADERS AND TEACHERS RATHER THAN STUDENTS. DISCUSSIONS WITH STAFF OF THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS (NCHS) FOCUSED ON THE EGYPTIANS PROPOSAL FOR A NATIONAL HEALTH REGISTRY AS WELL AS PAST AND POSSIBLE

FUTURE COOPERATION IN THE AREA OF STATISTICAL RESEARCH, UNDER THE P.L. 480 PROGRAM, BETWEEN THE U.S. AND EGYPT. DISCUSSIONS WITH DR. ROSENTHAL FOCUSED ON POSSIBILITIES FOR COOPERATION, PRIMARILY INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND INTERCHANGE OF EXPERTS, IN THE FIELD OF HEALTH SERVICES, RESEARCH AND EVALUATION. DR. MAZEN SAID THAT AN EVAULATION AND DEVELOPMENT SECTION IS BEING CREATED WITHIN THE EGYPTIAN MINISTRY OF HEALTH. HENCE HE IS QUITE INTERESTED IN THE WORK OF DR. ROSENTHALS'S BUREAU.

5. ON MONDAY MORNING AUGUST 19. DR. MAZEN MET WITH AID. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORTING ASSISTANCE/HEALTH STAFF. THE PRINCIPALS WERE DR. LLOYD FLORIO, ACTING DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF HEALTH AND DR. ISAIAH JACKSON, SUPPORTING ASSISTANCE/TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT/CHIEF, PUBLIC HEALTH, DR. FLORIO AND THE OTHER AID STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT REVIEWED THE RANGE OF ACTIVITIES WITH WHICH TA HEALTH IS PRESENTLY INVOLVED, INCLUDING: HEALTH SECTOR ANALYSES, DEIDS (DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION AND INTEGRATED DELIVERY SYSTEMS, A PROGRAM FOCUSED ON PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING LOW-COST PRACTICAL. EFFECTIVE RURAL HEALTH DELIVERY SYSTEMS THAT WILL BE VIABLE, ONCE ESTABLISHED, WITHOUT EXTERNAL SUPPORT), PROVISION OF TECHNICAL EXPERTISE THROUGH THE AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION AND AMERICAN HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION; AND, A PROGRAM TO TRAIN TEACHERS HOW TO TEACH IN THE HEALTH SCIENCES AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEATLH, DR. MAZEN SAID THAT HIS MINISTRY WOULD WELCOME A HEALTH SECTOR ANALYSIS TO AID IN PLANNING AND SETTING PRIORITIES UNCLASSIFIED

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SINCE IT IS CLEAR THAT EVERYTHING CAN'T BE DONE AT ONCE.
DR. FLORIO RESPONDED THAT THEY WOULD EXPLORE WHETHER AID CAN UNDERTAKE

SUCH AN ANALYSIS WITHIN THEIR EXISTING LEGISLATION. DR. MAZEN ALSO INDICATED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE THROUGH THE APHA AND AHA AS WELL AS THROUGH THE AAMC (ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN MEDICAL COLLEGES). WE RESPECT TO PROJECTS REQUIRING CAPITAL INVESTMENT, DR. JACKSON INDICATED THAT IT WOULD BE NECESSARY FOR AID EXPERTS TO VISIT EGYPT TO SEE WHAT RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE AND WHAT ACTUALLY IS NEEDED.

6. ON MONDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 19, DR. MAZEN MET WITH HAROLD O. BUZZELL, ADMINISTRATOR OF THE PHS, HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION AND MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF. DR. MAZEN DESCRIBED EGYPT'S PROPOSALS FOR COOPERATION AND THE HSA STAFF DESCRIBED THE HSA'S RESPONSIBILITIES. MR. BUZZELL INDICATED HIS ADMINISTRATION IS INTERESTED IN COOPERATING WITH EGYPT, PARTICULARLY ON OPERATIONS RESEARCH IN FAMILY PLANNING, JOINT STUDIES WITH RESPECT TO BARRIERS TO OBTAINING HEALTH SERVICES, IMPLEMENTATION AND FINANCING OF AMBULATORY HEALTH SERVICES, AND HEALTH MANPOWER, INCLUDING SUCH THINGS AS TECHNIQUES NEEDED TO AVOID OVERSPECIALIZATION.

7. ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, DR. MAZEN MET WITH STAFF OF THE PHS, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION. THE PRINCIPALS WERE: MR. SAM FINE, ACTING COMMISSIONER; DR. LLOYD TEPPER, ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER FOR SCIENCE; DR. JOHN JENNINGS, ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER FOR MEDICAL AFFAIRS; AND DR. KENNETH TAYLOR, COORDINATOR, P.L. 480 PROGRAM. DURING THIS MEETING IT WAS CONCLUDED THAT FDA COULD BE OF MATERIAL ASSISTANCE IN CONNECTION WITH TWO OF THE PROJECTS PROPOSED BY EGYPT: THE CENTER FOR STUDY OF TOXIC HAZARDS AND TOXIC SUBSTANCES ON HEALTH OF MAN AND PRODUCTION OF HUMAN VACCINES. TO A LESSER EXTEND, FDA COULD BE OF ASSISTANCE IN THE PROJECTS ON: PRODUCTION OF ORGANIC MANURE FROM MUNICIPAL REFUSE (THE LEAD AGENCY HERE WOULD BE EPA), THE CENTER FOR RADIOTHERAPY AND NUCLEAR MEDICINE, AND PRODUCTION OF DRUGS, PARTICULARLY IN QUALITY ASSURANCE AND THE APPROPRIATENESS TO EGYPTIAN REQUIREMENTS. ADDITIONALL, FDA COULD BE OF ASSISTANCE IN TERMS OF TRAINING AS APPLICABLE TO SELECTED NEEDS. IT WAS AGREED THAT FDA WOULD PROVIDE DR. MAZEN WITH A LIST OF COURSES WHICH THEY SPONSOR. UNCLASSIFIED

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8. ON TUESDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 20, DR. MAZEN MET WITH STAFF OF THE SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICE. THE PRINCIPALS WERE: DR. GARY MASSEL, ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR FOR PLANNING RESEARCH AND EVALUATION; DR. JAMES GARRETT, ASSISTANT ADMIN-STRATOR, RESEARCH AND DEMONSTRATIONS; DR. DOROTHY LALLY, CHIEF, INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES; DR. MARTIN MCCAVITT, CHIEF, DIVISION OF INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES; AND MR. JOSEPH TRAUB. DURING THIS MEETING SRS RESEARCH INTERESTS WERE DISCUSSED AS WERE THE TWO EGYPTIAN PROPOSALS CONCERNED WITH REHABILITATION. THESE PROPOSALS ARE: "PHYSIOTHERAPY SECTIONS IN GENERAL HOSPITALS" AND "CENTER FOR REHABILITATION AND PROSTHETICS." WITH RESPECT TO THE LATTER, SRS STAFF INDICATED THEY ARE ALREADY DEEPLY COMMITTED TO COOPERATION WITH THE FAITH AND GOOD HOPE SOCIETY. HENCE, THEY WOULD NOT BE INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING A PARALLEL EFFORT THROUGH THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH. (IN A SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR HEALTH EDWARDS, DR. MAZEN SUGGESTED THIS PROPOSAL WOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED FURTHER FOR JOINT COOPERATION SINCE IT WOULD DUPLICATE ONGOING GOOPERATION. WITH RESPECT TO THE PHYSIOTHERAPY IN GENERAL HOSPITALS, SRS INDICATED THEY COULD PROBABLY COOPERATE THROUGH INTERCHANGE OF EXPERTS AND JOINT RESEARCH. SRS IS INTERESTED IN COOPERATIVE RESEARCH WITH THE MOH UNDER THE P.L.480 PROGRAM, PARTICULARLY CONTROLLED EXPERIMENTS ON DELIVERY OF MEDICAL REHABILITATION SERVICES; EARLY DIAGNOSIS AND PERIODIC SCREENING FOR HANDI-CAPPING CONDITIONS; AND, PSYCHIATRIC REHABILITATION. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT SRS HAS PREVIOUSLY WORKED ONLY THROUGH THE EGYPTIAN MINISTRY OF SOCIAL WELFARE.

9. ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, DR. MAZEN MET WITH AID SUPPORTING ASSISTANCE/COMMODITIES STAFF. THE MEETING WAS CHAIRED BY MR. RANSOME LOOPER. DISCUSSION FOCUSED ON A LIST OF TWELVE MEDICAL COMMODITIES WHICH THE EGYPTIANS WISH TO PURCHASE AT A ESTIMATED

COST OF \$3 MILLION AND THE EGYPTIAN'S REQUIREMENTS FOR HOSPITAL EQUIPMENT FOR THE SUEZ AREA. IN CONNECTION WITH THE LATTER, THE SA/COMMODITIES STAFF GAVE DR. MAZEN THREE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CATALOGS FOR HOSPITAL EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES - ONE EACH FOR A 500 BED, A 300 BED, AND 100 BED HOSPITAL. THEY SUGGEST, SINCE THE EGYPTIANS KNOW WHAT EQUIPMENT THEY NOW HAVE, THAT DR. MAZEN TAKE THE CATALOGS WITH HIM AND RETURN THEM LATER, APPROPRIATELY ANNOTATED TO INDICATE THE EQUIPMENT THEY NEED. UNCLASSIFIED

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THE COMMODITIES STAFF INDICATED THAT THEY COULD THEN PRICE OUT THE DESIRED SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT. THE TOTAL EXPENDITURE IS TO BE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF \$5 MILLION.

10. THE FINAL MEETING IN WASHINGTON ON AUGUST 21 WAS AT THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC). THE PRINCIPALS WERE MR. PETER HALE, ACTING DIRECTOR, COMMERCE ACTION GROUP FOR THE NEAR EAST(CAGNE) AND MR. DONALD STOW AND MR DONALD HALDANE OF THE CAGNE STAFF. DR. MAZEN WAS SUPPLIED WITH A COMPREHENSIVE LIST OF U.S. COMPANIES THAT MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN JOINT VENTURES OR OTHER ARRANGEMENTS IN EGYPT FOR THE PRODUCTION OF VACCINES, PHARMACEUTICALS, HOSPITAL SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT. AT THIS MEETING DR. MAZEN PRODUCED A SEVENTEENTH PROPOSAL ON THE PRODUCTION OF PLASMA SUBSTITUTES. ADDITIONALLY, DR. MAZEN MENTIONED EARLIER DISCUSSIONS WITH DR. NORMAN FARNSWORTH OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS ABOUT CULTIVATION OF MEDICINAL PLANTS IN EGYPT FOR SALE TO U.S. PHARMACEUTICAL FIRMS. THE CAGNE STAFF AGREED TO SUPPLY DR. MAZEN WITH NAME OF U.S. FIRMS PRODUCING BLOOD PLASMA SUBSTITUTES AND TO FOLLOW UP WITH DR. FARNSWORTH REGARDING THE MEDICINAL PLANTS. THE DOC ALSO ARRANGED FOR DR. MAZEN TO MEET WITH OFFICIALS OF PFIZER AND AMERICAN SYANAMID IN NEW YORK THE FOLLOWING DAY.

11. FOR EMBASSY'S INFORMATION, THE FOLLOWING IS A LISTING OF THE PROPOSALS WHICH DR. MAZEN PRESENTED:

## MINISTRY OF HEALTH PROPOSALS:

- 1. CENTER FOR STUDY OF TOXIC HAZARDS AND TOXIC SUBSTANCES ON HEALTH OF MAN
- 2. POLY VALENT CHEMICAL PLANT
- 3. PHYSICAL MEDICINE CENTERS
- 4. PRODUCTION OF MEDICAL SURGICAL SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT.
- 5. ESTABLISHMENT OF FACTORIES PRODUCTION OF ORGANIC MANURE FROM REFUSE IN LARGE CITIES
  6. PRODUCTION OF INFANT MILK AND MILK-BASED FOOD PRODUCTS.
- 7. PRODUCTION OF VACCINES
- 8. CENTER FOR RADIOTHERAPY AND NUCLEAR MEDICINE IN UNCLASSIFIED

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### THE CAIRO UNIVERSITY

- 9. HIGH INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH TECHNOLOGY
- 10. NASSER POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL INSTITUTE
- 11. CENTER FOR REHABILITATION AND PROSTHETICS
- 12. PHYSIOTHERAPY SECTIONS IN GENERAL HOSPITAL
- $13.\ CONSTRUCTION\ OF\ HEALTH\ SERVICES\ IN\ SUEZ\ CANNAL$

AND SIANI

- 14. ARAB SPECIALIZED MEDICAL CENTRE
- (EXPANSION AND DEVELOPMENT OF AGOUZA HOSPITAL)
- 15. MANUFACTURE OF HEALTH PRODUCTS
- (DISPOSABLE APPLIANCES)
- 16. GENERAL HEALTH REGISTRY
- EGYPTIAN ORGANIZATION FOR BIOLOGICAL AND VACCINE

PRODUCTION PROPOSAL

- 17. PROJECT ON THE PRODUCTION OF PLASMA SUBSTITUTES
- MEDICAL SCHOOL PROPOSAL
- 18. DOLLAR SUPPLEMENT FOR P.L. 480 SUPPORTED RESEARCH
- AND IMPROVEMENTS IN MEDICAL EDUCATION. KISSINGER

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